Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

DPW-01 AID-20 RSR-01 /115 W ----- 049065

R 120839 Z APR 73 FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7284 INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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E. O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, KS, VN

SUBJECT: THIEU VISIT TO ROK

BEGIN SUMMARY: PRESIDENT THIEU MADE 14 - HOUR VISIT TO ROK ON APRIL 12, MET WITH PRESIDENT PARK, ND THANKED KOREAN PEOPLE FOR HELPING VIETNAM. END SUMMARY.

- 1. GVN PRESIDENT THIEU VISITED SEOUL ON APRIL 12, 1973, SPENDING A TOTAL OF 14 HOURS IN KOREA. HE MET WITH PRESIDENT PARK WHILE HIS FOREIGN MINISTER MET WITH FONMIN KIM, LUNCHED WITH THE PRESIDENT, AND ADDRESSED THE KOREAN PEOPLE ON TELEVISION BEFORE DEPARTING FOR SAIGON.
- 2. THIEU SPOKE OVER LIVE TELEVISION FOR ABOUT 10 MINUTES. HE THANKED THE KOREAN PEOPLE FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE TO VIETNAM, EXTENDED HIS CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF KOREAN SERVICEMEN WHO HAD BEEN KILLED AND WOUNDED IN VIETNAM, AND EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE STRONG TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.
- 3. MOFA ASIAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR TOLD US APRIL 11 THAT ROKG WOULD TAKE UP THREE MAIN POINTS WITH PRESIDENT THIEU: (A) ROKG WOULD EXPRESS ITS STRONG SUPPORT FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE THIEU REGIME AND ITS POLICIES; (B) ROK OFFICIALS WOULD SEEK TO LEARN FROM THIEU AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE OF HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT NIXON, WANTING ESPECIALLY TO GET THE BEST POSSIBLE INDICATION OF PLANNED US MILITARY AND AID PROGRAMS FOR INDOCHINA IN GENERAL AND VIETNAM IN PARTICULAR; (C) ROKG WOULD DISCUSS ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH VIET- NAM AND OFFER IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY RELIEF GOODS IN THE FORM OF SUCH THINGS AS BLANKETS AND MEDICINES.

4. OWING TO SHORT DURATION OF VISIT NO JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED. INSTEAD ROK PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SPOKESMAN KIM SEUNG JIN MADE STATEMENT TO PRESS, DECLARING THAT THIEU HAD THANKED THE NATION FOR THE HELP KOREA GAVE IN THE VIETNAM WAR AND THAT THE TWO LEADERS HAD HAD A ONE HOUR MEETING IN WHICH THEY DISCUSSED THE POSTWAR SITUATION IN VIETNAM, PEACE IN ASIA, ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THEIR TWO COUNTRIES, AND OTHER SUBJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAGS: PFOR, KS, VN

To: EA SAIGON

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